

September 22, 2015

A regular meeting of the Council of the Town of Bedford, Virginia, was held in the Council Hall of the Municipal Building at 7:00 p.m., September 22, 2015.

Members present: Mayor Robert T Wandrei; Councilman Tim Black; Councilman Stacey L. Hailey; Vice Mayor Steve C. Rush; and Councilman James A. Vest

Members absent: Councilman Robert D. Carson and Councilman Beckham A. Stanley

Staff present: Town Manager Charles P. Kolakowski; Town Attorney W. W. Berry, IV; and Clerk of the Council Teresa W. Hatcher

Mayor Wandrei opened the meeting and led all present in saying the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

On motion by Vice Mayor Rush, seconded by Councilman Hailey, voted upon and carried, by a roll call vote, the minutes of a Council work session held on August 25, 2015, and the minutes of a regular Council meeting held on August 25, 2015, were approved as distributed.

Town Manager Kolakowski reported on the following:

- expressed appreciation to the Bedford Rotary Club for the work they did at Greenwood Park – painting and mulching
- He and Mr. Lawhorne are working with some church groups who will be doing some painting of public properties in the next few weeks.
- The community cleanup will be held soon.
- The mobilization of the work on Washington Street, as part of the downtown improvement project, starts soon: the project will start at the corner of Washington and Crenshaw Streets and continue towards the downtown area – first tearing up the old broken sidewalk and the walls that need to be replaced.

Mr. Jim Messier, Bedford Main Street, Inc., presented Certificates of Appreciation for contributing to the Bedford Centertown area to Fishers Restaurant and Dominos. Mr. Messier stated that Centerfest will be held on October 9 and 10 and over 90 vendors have registered. He said that the Christmas Parade will be held on December 5 at 11:00 a.m. and the theme is “It’s a Wonderful Life.” Mr. Messier said that several Board members, Council members, and the Town Manager took a trip to Marion, Virginia. The group spent time with Marion’s Main Street Director, the Economic Development Director, the Mayor, and Town Manager. He explained the “Pop Up Marion Program.” Mr. Messier explained that Amanda Adams, Executive Director of Main Street, has moved to Manassas due to her husband getting a new job. The position has been advertised and interviews will begin soon.

Mayor Wandrei, on behalf of Council, expressed appreciation to Mr. Messier and the volunteers for the positive contribution they have made to the community.

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Councilman Vest said that Council needs to do something about getting some playground equipment for children that have special needs at Liberty Lake Park and Greenwood Park.

The Town Manager said that the staff has been working on this and will talk with Council when future capital requirements or possible capital projects for the Parks and Recreation area are discussed.

Vice Mayor Rush and Councilman Black spoke about the good ideas that Marion has.

Councilman Black extended his appreciation to the Rotary Club for its work at Greenwood Park.

The Mayor said that the fitness trail at Liberty Lake Park needs maintenance.

Mayor Wandrei said there will be a breakfast meeting on October 1 at CVCC, sponsored by Bedford Education Association, and a progress report is usually given at this meeting.

Councilman Black, Chairman of the Electric Committee, said the Committee met on September 1 with the new Electric Utility Director, Mr. Wagner. The Committee reviewed the Town's priorities: the solar project, the debt refinancing, and some issues at the Hydro Plant. Mr. Wagner gave the Committee an update on the Centerville Project. Councilman Black said the Committee also had a general discussion on financial goals.

Councilman Vest, Chairman of the Finance Committee, said the Committee also met on September 1. Mr. Vest said Ms. Jammes already reviewed what was discussed at the Council work session held today at 5:30 p.m.

Town Manager Kolakowski reported that the terms of Mr. Jimmy Holdren and Mr. John Owen on the Redevelopment and Housing Authority will expire on October 13, 2015. They have expressed a willingness to continue serving on the Board.

On motion by Vice Mayor Rush, seconded by Councilman Hailey, voted upon and carried by a roll call vote, Mr. Jimmy Holdren and Mr. John Owen were appointed to the Redevelopment and Housing Authority for terms expiring on October 13, 2015. Roll call vote follows:

Councilman Carson	absent
Councilman Hailey	aye
Vice Mayor Rush	aye
Councilman Stanley	absent
Councilman Vest	aye
Councilman Black	aye
Mayor Wandrei	aye

Mayor Wandrei adjourned the meeting at 7:16 p.m.